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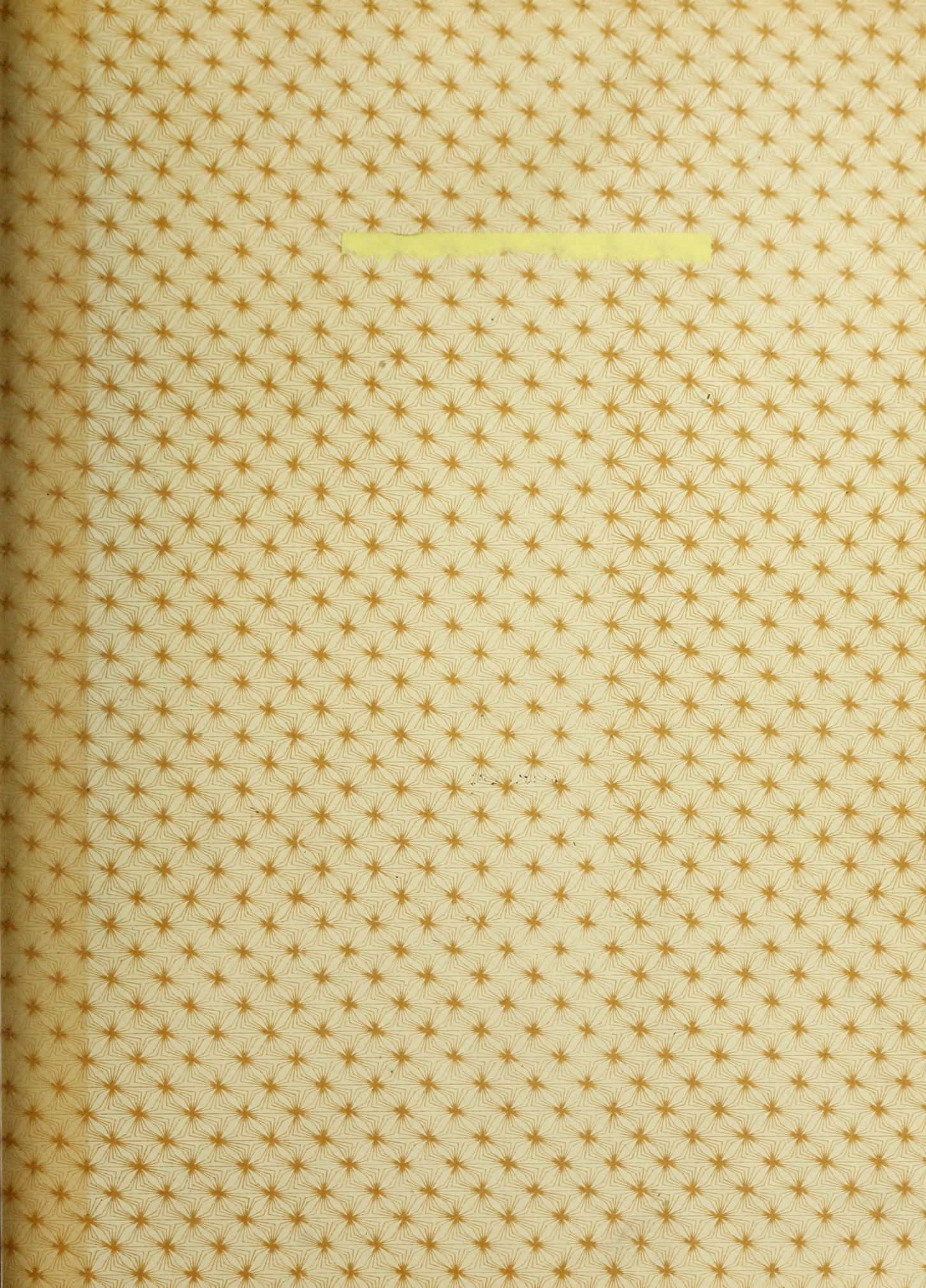
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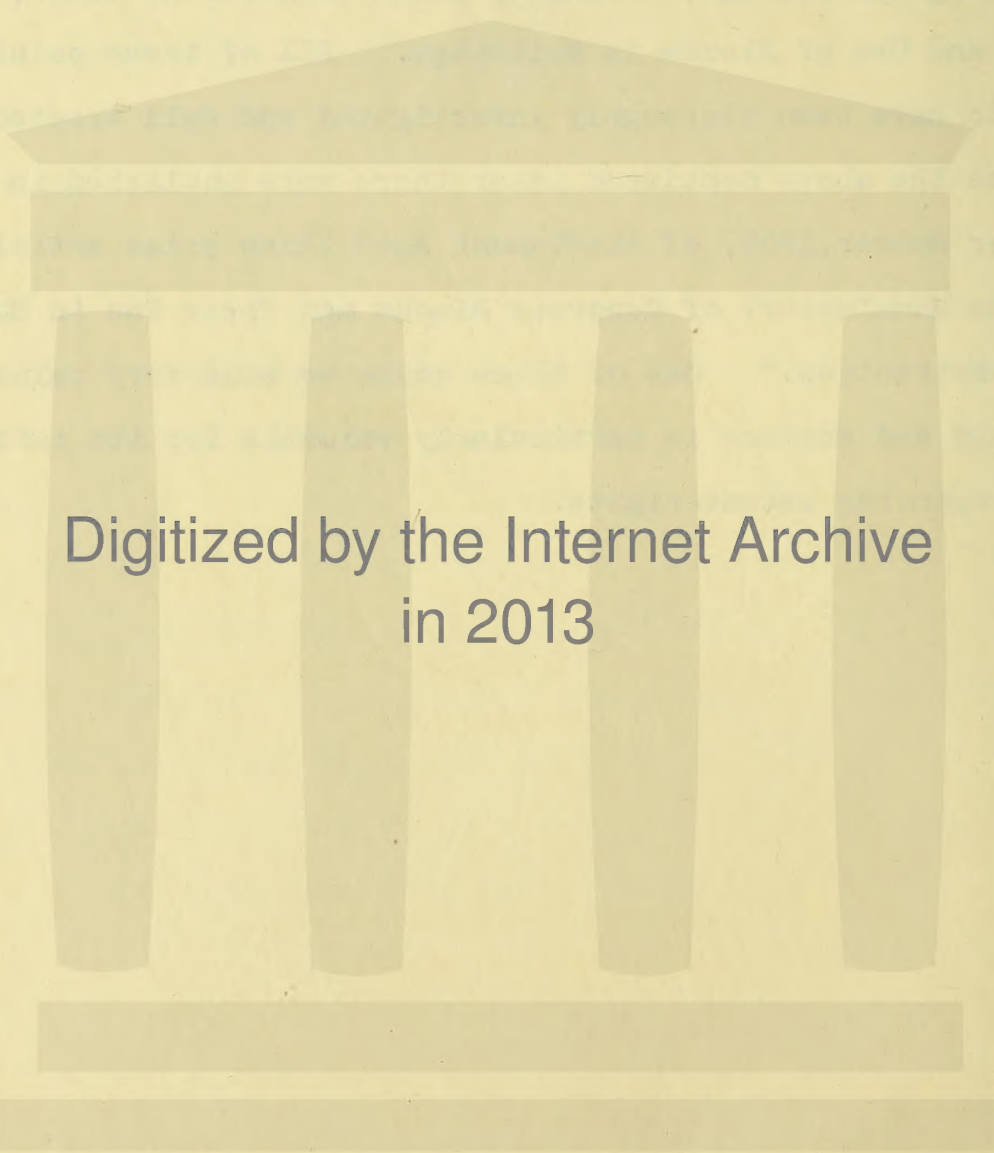
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# A CITY CLUB

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BY

EDWARD GEORGE OLDEFEST

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## THESIS

For the Degree of Bachelor of Science  
in Architecture

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

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PRESENTED, JUNE, 1906



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THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE THESIS PREPARED UNDER MY SUPERVISION BY

Edward George Oldefest

ENTITLED A City Club

IS APPROVED BY ME AS FULFILLING THIS PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

OF Bachelor of Science in Architecture

*N. Clifford Ricker*

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT OF Architecture



## A City Club.

The problem of which this is a solution, is that of designing a club building for a city of some half million or more inhabitants, where a desirable lot cannot always be secured, and where a more or less effective lighting scheme must be conceived. In this case, the lot is a somewhat narrow one, with the narrow side on an important street and the longer side on a narrow unfrequented street. An alley-way bounds the rear of the lot, while on the fourth side, a narrow court, extending halfway in, provides light for rooms which would otherwise remain in total darkness. The drawings which solve this problem consist of the following plates:

Plate I -- Front Elevation

" II - First and second floors

" III Third " fourth "

IV Fifth " sixth "

The small size of the lot, neces-

United States

The first of the three main branches of the federal government is the executive branch, headed by the President. The President is elected by the people for a four-year term and has the power to veto legislation passed by Congress. The executive branch also includes the Vice President and the various departments and agencies that carry out the day-to-day operations of the government.

The second main branch is the legislative branch, headed by Congress. Congress is made up of the House of Representatives and the Senate. The House is elected by the people for two-year terms, while the Senate is elected by the states for six-year terms. Congress has the power to pass laws, declare war, and approve or reject the President's appointments and vetoes.

The third main branch is the judicial branch, headed by the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court is made up of nine Justices, one of whom is the Chief Justice. The Justices are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The judicial branch has the power to interpret the laws of the country and to decide whether or not they are constitutional.

The three branches of the federal government are designed to check and balance each other. For example, the President can veto legislation, but Congress can override a veto with a two-thirds vote. The Supreme Court can declare laws unconstitutional, but Congress can change the laws. This system of checks and balances is intended to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful.



sitates that eight floors be planned in order that all the requirements for a modern city club may be satisfied. This number includes both basement and top floor, which are not shown, owing to less importance and similarity to other plans.

The elevation is an attempt at the usual style which one sees in large cities of the East: an Americanization of the modern French, although less elaborate in treatment. The class of men who hold membership in such a club are of wealth and culture, and their tastes, particularly in New York, are inclined to be somewhat elaborate.

The basement plan contains a most convenient disposal of the required rooms, including: main kitchen, store rooms, heating apparatus (city heat being used), servants' rooms, gymnasium, tank room, baths, lockers, bowling



alleys, and a "Bathshelter".

The entrance to the building is made from both the main front and side, and the first floor is but a single step above the street level. The service part of the floor is reached by an entrance from the narrow court at the closed side of the building, allowing freight and other articles to be brought in by means of the alley-way, thus doing away with the inconvenience of having everything brought in through the main entrances. Thus the service entrance, freight and baggage is carried to the freight or service elevator and quickly conveyed to any of the upper floors.

On entering the main front of the club house, one steps into the vestibule from which four passenger elevators carry members to all floors above. From the vestibule, a step into the interior shows a rich Pompeian court with fountain and tiled floor. A colonnade, sup-



porting a gallery completely surrounds the court, which is open to the ceiling and crowned by a magnificent skylight which floods the floors below it with light. Each floor has its gallery so that the court below can be viewed from any height. Rooms on all floors except the two upper floors, open directly off of the galleries.

On the first floor are arranged a ladies' parlor and a strangers room in close proximity to the entrance lobby and elevators. Two broad stairways, open off the court on opposite sides, for the convenience of those who prefer not to take elevators. Directly across the court from the entrance vestibule, is the large grill room, where quick orders may be served at short notice. On one side of the grill room and opening off of it, lies the wine room; on the other side are the serving rooms, service hall and a small private dining room. The



elevator in the service hall, as well as the stairway there, is used to convey orders to the grill and dining rooms on upper floors, from the main kitchen in the basement.

The second floor is occupied by the main dining room and four smaller private dining rooms, all of which are conveniently reached from the service hall and serving room. For convenience of ladies, parlors, coat rooms, and toilets are provided on this floor.

The third floor contains a large billiard room, library, card rooms, coat rooms, supply room, service hall, toilets etc.

The fourth floor is the social center of the club men, for here are the club rooms, lounging room, den, smoking room and supply room. Here also are the executive rooms consisting of a committee room and a directors room. The usual coat and toilet rooms are also here provided.



The fifth floor is devoted to the entertainment of the women, for here is a spacious ball room, with parlors for "between dances." Toilet and cloak rooms are reached from the parlors, for both men and women.

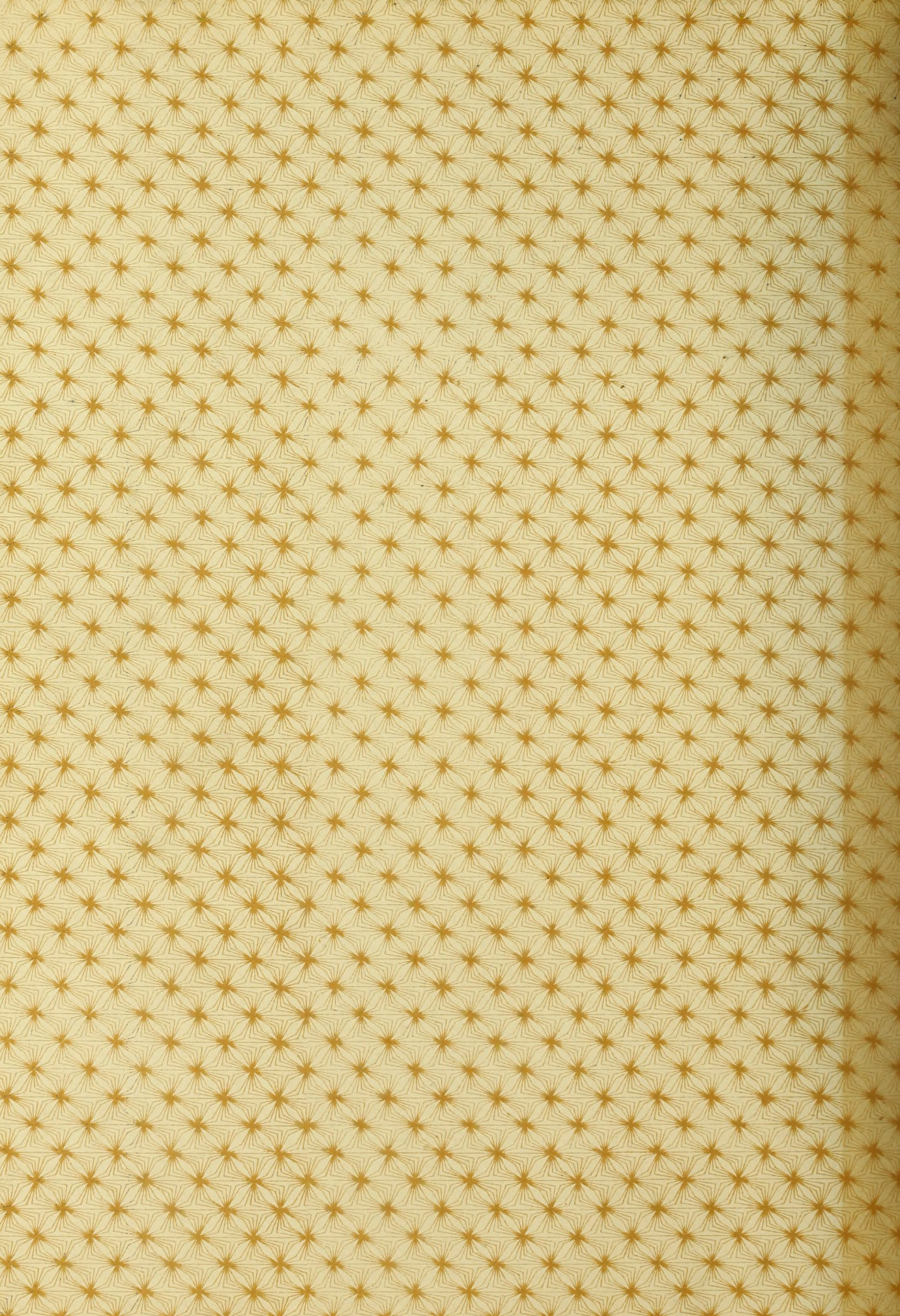
The sixth and seventh floors are alike in plan, and arranged for the convenience of members who prefer to "live at the club," and keep private bachelor quarters. The rooms may be secured en suite or singly, according to the tastes and means of the members. These rooms are not all reached immediately from the galleries, but by long passages leading from the galleries. Rooms are arranged on either side, and those on the inner side are lighted and ventilated by a second light shaft which extends only thru these two floors. Baths, toilets and closets are numerous on these floors to the satisfaction and delight of the bachelor members.

The author of this thesis has



endeavored to demonstrate that a suitable club, satisfying all requirements can be designed, notwithstanding the fact that the lot is narrow, the lighting facilities poor and the floor area small. The light court in the center can be most beautifully treated, and by its usefulness more than pays for the amount of space that it occupies.

Locality would have little effect upon the building of such a club, because it can be built of stone, stone and brick, brick and terra cotta, terra cotta alone, or even of concrete, - and then - any of these materials may be effectively combined to form a congruous whole.





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